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# **Punjab Government Gazette**

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### PART III

#### GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

##### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(Health-6 Branch)

#### NOTIFICATION

The 30th October, 2017

**No. G.S.R.53/Const./Art.309/2017.**-In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution of India, and all other powers enabling him in this behalf, the Governor of Punjab is pleased to make the following rules, regulating the recruitment and conditions of Service of the persons appointed to the Punjab Health and Family Welfare, Ministerial Staff (Head Office) "Group-A" Service, namely:-

#### RULES

**1. Short title, commencement and application.**-(1) These rules may be called the Punjab Health and Family Welfare Ministerial Staff (Head Office)"Group-A" Service Rules, 2017.

(2) They shall come into force on and with effect from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

(3) They shall apply to the posts specified in Appendix 'A'.

**2. Definitions.**- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) 'Appendix' means an Appendix, appended to these rules ;

(b) 'Government' means the Government of the State of Punjab in the Department of Health and Family Welfare ; and

(c) 'Service' means the Punjab Health and Family Welfare, Ministerial Staff (Head Office) "Group-A" Service.

**3. Number and character of posts.**-The Service shall comprise the posts specified in Appendix 'A':

Provided that nothing in these rules shall affect the inherent right of the Government to add or to reduce the number of such posts or to create new posts with different designations and scales of pay, whether permanently or temporarily.

**4. Appointing authority.**- Appointment to the Service shall be made by the Government.

**5. Pay of members of the Service.**-The members of the Service shall be entitled to such scales of pay, as may be authorized by the Government of Punjab in the

Department of Finance from time to time. The scales of pay at present, in force, are given in Appendix 'A'.

**6. Method of appointment, qualifications and experience.** –(1) Appointment to the post in Service shall be made in the manner specified in Appendix 'B':

Provided that if no suitable candidate is available for appointment to the Service by promotion and by the direct appointment, the appointment to the Service shall be made by transfer of a person holding an analogous post under the State Government or Government of India.

(2) No person shall be appointed to any post in the Service, unless he possesses the qualifications and experience specified against that post in Appendix 'B'.

(3) Appointment to the Service by promotion shall be made on the basis of seniority-cum-merit, but no person shall have any right to claim promotion on the basis of seniority alone.

**7. Discipline, punishment and appeal.** –(1) In the matters of discipline, punishment and appeal, the members of the Service shall be governed by the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1970, as amended from time to time.

(2) The authority empowered to impose penalties, as specified in rule 5 of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1970, in respect of the members of the Service, shall be the Government.

**8. Application of the Punjab Civil Services (General and Common Conditions of Service) Rules, 1994.** – (1) In respect of the matters, which are not specifically provided in these rules, the members of the Service shall be governed by the provisions of the Punjab Civil Services (General and Common Conditions of Service) Rules, 1994, as amended from time to time.

(2) The Punjab Civil Services (General and Common Conditions of Service) Rules, 1994, at present in force, are contained in Appendix 'C'.

**9. Repeal and saving.** –The Punjab Medical Department Subordinate Posts (Recruitment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 1945, in so far as they are applicable to the members of the Service, are hereby repealed:

Provided that any order issued or any action taken under the rules so repealed, shall be deemed to have been issued or taken under the corresponding provisions of these rules.

**10. Interpretation.** – If any question arises as to the interpretation of these rules, the Government, in consultation with the Department of Personnel, shall decide the same.

**APPENDIX- 'A'**

[See rules 1(3), 3 and 5]

Serial Designation of the No. Posts		Number of posts			Scale of pay (Pay Band+Grade pay)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
		Permanent	Temporary	Total	
1.	Administrative Officer (Family Welfare)	1	-	1	15600-39100+5400
2.	Superintendent Grade-1	17	-	17	15600-39100+5400

**APPENDIX- 'B'**

[See rule 6]

Serial Designation of the No. posts		Percentage for Appointment by		Method of Appointment, qualification and experience for appointment by	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
		Direct Appointment	Promotion	Direct Appointment	Promotion
1.	Administrative Officer (Family Welfare)	-	Hundred percent	-	From amongst the Superintendents Grade-I, who have an experience of working as such for a minimum period of one year.
	Superintendent Grade-I	-	Hundred percent	-	From amongst the Superintendents Grade-2, working in the Head Office under the control of the Director, Health and Family Welfare, who have an experience of working as such for a minimum period of two years.

**Appendix 'C'**

{See Rule 8(2)}

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**

**DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
REFORMS**

(PERSONNEL POLICIES- I BRANCH)

**Notification**

The 4th May, 1994

**No. G.S.R. 33/Const./Art.309/94.**—In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution of India, and all other powers enabling in this behalf, the Governor of Punjab is pleased to make the following rules regulating the recruitment and general and common conditions of service of persons appointed to Group "A", Group "B" and Group "C" services in connection with the affairs of the State of Punjab, namely :—

**1. Short title, commencement and application.—**

- (1) These rules may be called the Punjab Civil Services (General and Common Conditions of service) Rules, 1994.
- (2) They shall come into force at once.
- (3) They shall apply to all the posts in Group A, Group B and Group C services in connection with the affairs of the State of Punjab.

**2. Definitions.—**In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) "appointing authority" means an appointing authority specified as such in the Service Rules made under article 309 of the Constitution of India in respect of any service or post in connection with the affairs of the State of Punjab;
- (b) "Board" means the Subordinate Services Selection Board, Punjab or any other authority constituted to perform its functions;
- (c) "Commission" means the Punjab Public Service Commission;
- (d) "Direct appointment" means an appointment made otherwise than by promotion or by transfer of a person already in the service of Government of India or of a State Government;
- (e) "Government" means the Government of the State of Punjab in the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms;
- (f) "Recognized university or institution" means,-

- 
- (i) Any university or institution incorporated by law in any of the State of India; or
  - (ii) Any other university or institution, which is declared by the Government to be recognized university or institution for the purposes of these rules;
  - (g) "Service" means any Group "A", Group "B" or Group "C" service, Class II service or Class III service constituted in connection with the affairs of the State of Punjab as per scales given in the Appendix;
  - (h) "Service Rules" means the service rules made under article 309 of the Constitution of India regulating the recruitment and conditions of service other than the general and common conditions of service of persons appointed to any service or post in connection with the affairs of the State of Punjab; and
  - (i) "War Hero" means a defense services personnel, or a para-military forces personnel, who is a bona fide resident of Punjab State and has been killed, or discharged from service on account of disability suffered by him on or after 1st January, 1999, while fighting in a war declared so by the Government Of India, In operations in Kargil or any other sector in Jammu and Kashmir in the on going conflict with Pakistan or in any other operations which may be notified by the state Government to have been undertaken for preserving the unity and integrity of the country ;or
  - (ii) a defense service personnel or a para-military forces personnel who was a bonafide resident of Punjab State and was posthumously decorated with Parmvir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra Or Vir Chakra; provided that ,
    - a) In exceptional instances ,the cases of such war heroes may also be covered , with the prior approval of the Department of Personnel who though not bonafide residents of Punjab State are yet closely connected to the state of Punjab;
    - b) In the case of War Heroes , falling in the category (ii)above , the benefits to be given by the State Government will be restricted only to first generation dependent members / next of the kin.

Note:- The Government reserves the right to include any other category of awardees for the purpose of providing employment to the category of the war heroes, as may be notified.

### **3. Nationality, domicile and character of persons appointed to the Service.-**

- No person shall be appointed to the Service unless he is,-
- (a) a Citizen of India; or
  - (b) a Citizen of Nepal; or
  - (c) a Subject of Bhutan; or

- (d) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before the 1st day of January, 1962 with the intention of permanently settling in India; or
- (e) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and East African Countries of Kenya, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania (formerly Tanganyika and Zanzibar) Zambia, Malawi, Zaire, Ethiopia and Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India :

Provided that a person belonging to any of the categories (b), (c), (d) and (e) shall be a person in whose favour a certificate of eligibility has been given by the Government of Punjab in the Department of Home Affairs and Justice.

(2) A person in whose case a certificate of eligibility is necessary may be admitted to an examination or interview conducted by the Commission or the Board, as the case may be, on his furnishing proof that he has applied for the certificate but he shall not be appointed to the service unless the necessary certificate is given to him by the Government of Punjab in the Department of Home Affairs and Justice.

(3) No person shall be recruited to the Service by direct appointment, unless he produces,-

- (a) a certificate of character from the principal academic officer of the university, college, school or institution last attended, if any, and similar certificates from two responsible persons not being his relatives, who are well acquainted with him in his private life and are unconnected with his university, college, school or institution; and
- (b) An affidavit to the effect that he was never convicted for any criminal offence involving moral turpitude and that he was never dismissed or removed from service of any State Government or of Government of India or of any Public Sector Undertaking.

**4. Disqualification- No person ;**

- (a) who has entered into or contracted a marriage with a person having spouse living ; or
- (b) who, having a spouse living, has entered into or contracted a marriage with any person,

shall be eligible for appointment to the Service:

Provided that the Government, if satisfied that such marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person and the other party to the marriage and that there are other grounds for so doing, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.

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5. **Age.-** (1) No person shall be recruited to the Service by direct appointment if he is less than eighteen years or is more than thirty seven years of age in the case of technical and non-technical posts on the first day of January of the year immediately preceding the last date, fixed for submission of applications by the Commission or the Board, as the case may be), or unless he is within such range of minimum and maximum age limits as may be specifically fixed by the Government from time to time:

Provided that where different lower and upper age limits have been specifically prescribed for posts in the Service Rules, these limits shall be made applicable for appointment to such posts:

Provided further that the upper age limit may be relaxed up to forty-five years in the case of persons already in the employment of the Punjab Government, other State Government, or the Government of India:

Provided further that in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes, the upper age limit shall be such as may be fixed by the Government from time to time.

- (2) In the case of ex-servicemen, the upper age limit shall be such as has been prescribed in the Punjab Recruitment of Ex-servicemen Rules, 1982, as amended from time to time.
- (3) In the case of appointment on compassionate grounds on priority basis, the upper age limit shall be such as may be specifically fixed by the Government from time to time.
- (4) In the case of appointment of a War-hero, who has been discharged from defence services or para-military forces on account of disability suffered by him or his widow or dependent member of his family, the upper age limit shall be such as may be specifically fixed by the Government from time to time .
- [5A]. Increase in upper age limit- Notwithstanding any thing contained in rule 5, on and with effect from the commencement of the Punjab Civil Services( General and Common conditions of service ) amendment rule, 2010, wherein any other service rules, or in Government Instructions, the upper age limit for appointment to any service or for any category or persons, if different from 35 years, it shall be deemed to have been increased by two years.]\*C
6. **Qualifications etc.**—Subject to the provisions of these rules, the number and character of posts, method of recruitment and educational qualifications and

experience for appointment to a post or posts in a Service and the departmental examination, if any, shall be such as may be specified in the Service Rules made for that Service:

\*[Provided that where appointment of Group "A" or Group "B" non-technical post is offered to a war-hero, who has been discharged from defence services or para-military forces on account of disability suffered by him or his widow or dependent member of his family, under the instructions issued in this behalf by the Government, the educational qualification to be possessed by such person shall be graduation from a recognized university. Such person who is offered Group A, Group B and Group C non-technical post, shall not, however, be required to possess experience of technical or non-technical post at the time of his initial appointment.]

7. **Probation.**—(1) A person appointed to any post in the Service shall remain on probation for a period of three years, if recruited by direct appointment and one year if appointed otherwise:

Provided that—

- (a) any period, after such appointment, spent on deputation on a corresponding or a higher post shall count towards the period of probation;
- (b) in the case of any appointment by transfer, any period of work on an equivalent or higher rank, prior to appointment to the Service, may in the discretion of the appointing authority, be allowed to count towards the period of probation;
- (c) any period of officiating appointment to the Service shall be reckoned as period spent on probation; and
- (d) any kind of leave not exceeding six months during or at the end of period of probation, shall be counted towards the period of probation.

- (2) If, in the opinion of the appointing authority, the work or conduct of a person during the period of probation is not satisfactory or if he has failed to pass the departmental examination, if any prescribed in Service Rules within a period not exceeding two and a half years from the date of appointment, it may,—

- (a) if such person is recruited by direct appointment, dispense with his services, or revert him to a post on which he held lien prior to his appointment to the Service by direct appointment ; and
- (b) if such person is appointed otherwise,—
  - (i) revert him to his former post ; or

- (ii) deal with him in such other manner as the terms and conditions of the previous appointment permit.
- (3) On the completion of the period of probation of a person, the appointing authority may,—
- (a) if his work and conduct has, in its opinion been satisfactory,—
  - (i) confirm such person, from the date of his appointment or from the date he completes his period of probation satisfactorily if he is not already confirmed ; or
  - (ii) declare that he has completed his probation satisfactorily, if he is already confirmed; or
  - (b) If his work or conduct has not been, in its opinion, satisfactory or if he has failed to pass the departmental examination, if any, specified in the Service Rules,—
  - (i) dispense with his services, if appointed by direct appointment or if appointed otherwise revert him to his former post, or deal with him in such other manner as the terms and conditions of his previous appointment may permit ;
  - (ii) extend his period of probation and thereafter pass such order as it could have passed on the expiry of the period of probation as specified in sub-rule (1):  
Provided that the total period of probation including extension, if any, shall not exceed three years.  
Provided that the total period of probation including extension, if any, shall not exceed three years.
8. **Seniority.**- The seniority inter se of persons appointed to posts in each cadre of a Service shall be determined by the length of continuous service on such post in that cadre of the Service :
- Provided that in the case of persons recruited by direct appointment who join within the period specified in the order of appointment or within such period as may be extended from time to time by the appointing authority subject to a maximum of four months from the date of order of appointment the order of merit determined by the Commission or the Board, as the case may be, shall not be disturbed:
- Provided further that in case a person is permitted to join the post after the expiry of the said period of four months in consultation with the Commission or the Board, as the case may be, his seniority shall be determined from the date he joins the post :
- Provided further that in case any person of the next selection has joined a

post in the cadre of the concerned Service before the person referred to in the preceding proviso joins, the person so referred shall be placed below all the persons of the next selection, who join, within the time specified in the first proviso:

Provided further that in the case of two or more persons appointed on the same date, their seniority shall be determined as follows: —

- (a) a person appointed by direct appointment shall be senior to a person appointed otherwise;
- (b) a person appointed by promotion shall be senior to a person appointed by transfer,
- (c) in the case of person appointed by promotion or transfer, the seniority shall be determined according to the seniority of such persons in the appointments from which they were promoted or transferred.
- (d) in the case of persons appointed by transfer from different cadres, their seniority shall be determined according to pay, preference being given to a person who was drawing a higher rate of pay in his previous appointment; and if the rates of pay drawn are also the same, then by their length of service in these appointments and if the length of service is also the same, an older person shall be senior to a younger person;

Provided further that in case of persons recruited by direct appointment in the same cadre obtaining equal marks during same selection process, their inter-se-seniority shall be determined on the basis of their age. That is, an older person shall be senior to the younger person.

**Note.-** Seniority of persons appointed on purely provisional basis or on adhoc basis shall be determined as and when they are regularly appointed keeping in view the dates of such regular appointment.

**9. Liability of members of Service to transfer.-**

A member of a Service may be transferred to any post whether included in any other service or not, on the same terms and conditions as are specified in rule 3.17 of the Punjab Civil Services Rules, Volume I, Part I.

**10. Liability to serve.-**

A member of Service shall be liable to serve at any place, whether within or out of the State of Punjab, on being ordered so to do by the appointing authority.

**11. Leave, Pension and other matters.-**

In respect of pay, leave, pension and all other matters not expressly provided for

in these rules, a member of a Service shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may have been or may hereafter be adopted or made by the competent authority.

**12. Discipline, penalties and appeals.-**

- (1) In the matter of discipline, punishment and appeals, a member of Service shall be governed by the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1970 as amended from time to time.
- (2) The authority empowered to impose penalties specified in rule 5 of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1970 and the appellate authority there under in respect of the Government employee shall be such as may be specified in the Service Rules.

**13. Liability for vaccination and re-vaccination. —**

Every member of a Service shall get himself vaccinated or re-vaccinated when Punjab Government directs by a special or general order.

**14. Oath of allegiance. —**

Every member of a Service, unless he has already done so, shall be required to take oath of allegiance to India and to the Constitution of India as by law established.

**14 –A. Minimum Educational and other Qualifications for appointment to the post of Senior Assistant by -**

<b>Direct Appointment</b>	<b>Promotion</b>
No person shall be given direct appointment to other post of senior assistant under the Punjab Government, unless he-	From amongst the clerk, who have an experience of working as such for a minimum period of five years.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Possesses the Bachelors Degree from a recognized University or Institution ; and</li><li>(ii) Qualifies in the competitive test specified by the appointing authority from time to time;and</li><li>iii) Possesses at least one hundred and twenty hours course with hands on experience in the use of Personal Computer or Information Technology in Office productivity applications or Desktop Publishing applications from a Government recognized institution or a</li></ul>	

reputed Institution, which is ISO 9001,  
certified

Or

Possesses a Computer information Technology course equivalent to "O" level certificate of department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Course (DOEACC) of Government Of India

2. The person so appointed as Senior Assistant in terms of the provisions of sub- rule (i), shall have, before his appointment passed a test in English and Punjabi, respectively, typewriting either on computer or on manual or electronic typewriter, to be conducted by the Board of the appointing authority or the Department of Information Technology as the case may be , at the speed of thirty words per minute

Provided that where appointment of Group "B" non technical post is offered to a war hero, who has been discharged from defence services or dependent member of his family under the instructions issued in this behalf by the Government, the educational qualification to be possessed by such person shall be graduate from recognized university or institution.

However, such person shall not be done required to qualify the test in Punjabi typewriting as provided in sub-rule(2).

#### **15. Minimum Educational and other qualifications—**

- (1) (i) No person shall be given direct appointment to post of clerk under the Punjab Government unless he posses the Bachelor degree from a recognized University or Institution; and  
(ii) Possesses at least one hundred and twenty hours course with hands on experience in the use of Personal Computer or Information Technology in Office productivity applications or Desktop Publishing applications from a Government recognized institution or a reputed Institution, which is ISO 9001, certified

Or

Possesses a Computer Information Technology course equivalent to "O" level certificate of department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Course (DOEACC) of Government Of India;

- (2) The person so appointed as Clerk in terms of the provisions of sub- rule (i), shall have , before his appointment passed a test in English and Punjabi, respectively, on computer to be conducted by the Board of the appointing authority or the Department of Information Technology as the case may be , at the speed of thirty words per minute.

**15A. Minimum Educational and other Qualifications for appointment to the post of Senior Scale Stenographer by -**

<b>Direct Appointment</b>	<b>Promotion</b>
<p>No person shall be given direct appointment to post of clerk under the Punjab Government unless he -</p> <p>(i) posses the Bachelor degree from a recognized University or Institution; and</p> <p>(ii) Qualifies in a stenography test in four paras (2 in Punjabi and 2 in English language) containing 250 words each as follows :-</p> <p>a) the passage in Punjabi shall be dictated at a speed of 100 words per minute in Punjabi language required to be transcribed these (at typewriter/ computer) at a speed of 20 words per minute ;and</p> <p>b) the passage in English shall be dictated at a speed of 60 words per minute in English language required to be transcribed these at typewriter/ computer ) at the speed of 12 words per minute</p> <p>(iii) the candidates committing not more than 4% mistakes in aggregate and only if he/ she qualifies the stenography test in both the languages shall be considered to have qualified the test for appointment as senior scale stenographer""</p>	<p>i) From amongst the junior scale Stenographers, who have an experience of working as such for a minimum period of one year. Provided that if the Junior Scale Stenographer is not available then from amongst the Steno typists , who have an experience of working as such for a minimum period of five years; and</p> <p>(ii) Qualifies in a stenography test in four paras (two in Punjabi and two in English) containing 250 words each as follows :-</p> <p>(a) the passage in Punjabi shall be dictated at a speed of 100 words per minute in Punjabi language required to be transcribed these (at typewriter/ computer) at a speed of 20 words per minute; and</p> <p>c) the passage in English shall be dictated at a speed of 60 words per minute in English language required to be transcribed these</p>

Possesses at least one hundred and twenty hours course with hands on experience in the use of Personal Computer or Information Technology in Office productivity applications or Desktop Publishing applications from a Government recognized institution or a reputed Institution, which is ISO 9001, certified (at typewriter/computer) at the speed of 12 words per minute (IV) the candidates committing not more than 4% mistakes in aggregate and only if he/she qualifies the stenography test in both the languages shall be considered to have qualified the test for promotion as senior scale stenographer"

Or

Possesses a Computer Information Technology course equivalent to "O" level certificate of department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Course (DOEACC) of Government Of India;

- 
- 16.** Minimum Educational and other qualifications for appointment to the post of steno typist or junior scale stenographer- No person shall be given direct appointment to the post of steno typist or Junior scale stenographer under the Punjab Government unless he-
- He posses Bachelors Degree from a recognized university or Institution; and
  - Qualifies a test in Punjabi stenography to be held by the board or by the appointing authority at a speed specified by the Government from time to time; and
  - Possesses at least one hundred and twenty hours course with hands on experience in the use of Personnel Computer or Information Technology in Office productivity applications or Desktop Publishing applications from a Government recognized institution or a reputed Institution, which is ISO 9001, certified.

Or

Possesses a Computer Information Technology course equivalent to "O" level certificate of department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Course (DOEACC) of Government Of India)!\*\*.

**17. Knowledge Of Punjabi language:-**

No person shall be appointed to any post in any service by direct appointment unless he has passed matriculation examination with Punjabi as one of the compulsory or elective subject or any other equivalent examination in Punjabi language , which may be specified by the Government from time to time.

Provided that where a person is appointed on compassionate grounds on priority basis under the instructions issued in this behalf by the Government from time to time, the person so appointed shall have to pass an examination of Punjabi Language equivalent to Matriculation standard or he shall have to qualify a test conducted by the Language Wing of Department of Education of Punjab Government within a period of six months from the date of his appointment:

Provided further that where educational qualifications for a post in any service are lower than the Matriculation standard, then the person so appointed shall have to pass an examination of Punjabi Language equivalent to Middle standard:

Provided further where a War Hero, who has been discharged from defence services or paramilitary forces on account of disability suffered by him or his widow or dependent member of his family, is appointed under the instructions issued in this behalf by the Government, the person so appointed will not be required to possess aforesaid knowledge of Punjabi Language:

Provided further that where a ward of defence service personnel, who is a bona fide resident of Punjab State, is appointed by direct appointment, he shall have to pass an examination of Punjabi Language equivalent to Matriculation Standard or he shall have to qualify a test conducted by the Language Wing of the Department of Education of Punjab Government within a period of two years from the date of his appointment.

#### **18.\*\*\*[Promotion to Group "A" and Group "B" services**

- (1)** (a) For promotion to the post as head of department would be decided strictly on the basis of merit - cum -seniority as per the instructions issued by the Government from time to time. The minimum bench mark for promotion of for such post would be "very good". The officer who is graded as "Outstanding" would supersede the officer graded as , "very good".  
(b) For promotion to post falling in Group "A" other than Head Of Department, the minimum bench mark will be "Very good" as per the instructions issued by the Government from time to time. There shall be supersession on the basis of merit.  
(c) For promotion to post falling in Group "B" ,the minimum bench mark will be "good" and there shall be no supersession on the basis of merit.
- (2). Debarring for consideration for promotion of a Government employee who refuses to accept promotion.**—In the event of refusal to accept promotion by a member of a Service, he shall be debarred by the appointing authority from

consideration for promotion for all the consecutive chances which may occur in future within a period of two years from the date of such refusal to accept promotion :

Provided that in case where the appointing authority is satisfied that a member of a service has refused to accept promotion under the circumstances beyond his control, it may exempt such a member for reasons to be recorded therefore in writing from the operation of this rule.

**19. Power to relax.—**

Where the Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do, it may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, relax any of the provisions of these rules with respect to any class or category of persons :

Provided that the provisions relating to educational qualifications and experience, if any shall not be relaxed.

**20. Over-riding effect.—**

The provisions of these rules shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any rules for the time being in force for regulating the recruitment and conditions of service for appointment to public service and posts in connection with the affairs of the state.

**21. Interpretation.—**

If any, question arises as to the interpretation of these rules, the Government shall decide the same.

**A.S.CHATTHA,**  
Chief Secretary to Government of Punjab.

**ANJALI BHAWRA,**  
Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab,  
Department of Health and Family Welfare.